ierican Review of Eastern Orthodoxy

MONTHLY AREO NEWS

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FEATURE STORY

The Jerusalem Patriarchate

Synod of the Jerusalem Patriarchate rthodox) rejected a request from the vernment that the election of a new n be postponed until after church reg- are changed to make Arab clergymen or the post.

bers of the Holy Synod are Greek. The d it was agreeable to discussing the y of greater Arab participation in nistration of the Patriarchate, but a Patriarch had been elected.

rnment request was made at the de- Arab priests and laymen.

elements in both laity and hierarchy rted hopeful that a compromise can ed so that the government will grant tion to hold the election (it had or - definite' postponement of the election t February).

e demands include admission of a f young Arab priests to the monastic he Patriarchate; allowing admission reseeable future' of Arab bishops to Synod; and greater lay participation rchate activities thru the formation council with an elected lay majority minated clergy. This council would power to administer the temporal affairs of the Patriarchate and receive a share of its endowments and other income.

The Synod, on its side, has pointed out that Greek and other non-Arab Orthodox communities have provided and borne most of the burden of the upkeep of both the Patriarchate and the Holy Places under its custody. It also has expressed the fear that any severance of the traditional links to Greece and overseas Greeks might make the Patriarchate an easy prey to domination to the Russian Orthodox Church.

Chief candidates for the pending election are Archbishop Benedictos of Tiberias, who is the chief financial and legal adviser to the Patriarchate; and Archimandrite Kyriakos, who is guardian of the treasury of the Holy Sepulchre.

In an exclusive interview, the Rev. Fr. Zacharias Nasr, of Taybeh, Jordan, stated that the Patriarchate is composed of some 150 Parishes of about 1,000,000 membership; 300 monks; and the Holy Synod of 12 bishops. He said that the election of a Patriarch was made by the parishes first casting their votes and then the Synod cast theirs. Unfortunately, it appears that the total parishes votes of some 150 separate communities only count as one vote; whereas each member of the Synod counts, along with the 300 monastics, as a separate vote. Naturally, (Continued on page 2)

it is perfectly apparent that the local complaints are based on a feeling of lack of representation. However, it is true, to a large degree, that without Greek support from all over the world, many of the local activities would be greatly inhibited. Take for instance the plight of the St. George Orthodox Church of Taybeh, of which Father Nasr is a priest. This parish has a need for a school, inasmuch as some 250 children stand in need of education. To raise this money, in a village of 600 families, mostly peasants, becomes a gigantic problem. A 15 room building, to cost $30,000 is the equivalent of one nearly 100 times that amount in this country. Taybeh, as a village, is one of the very few all Christian settlements in Jordan - it is situated in high, hilly country and is a typical farming community of that area. The government has not yet progressed sufficiently to finance all necessary education, and that is why small villages have difficulty in developing their facilities. Father Nasr is a married priest with five children; he is in his early thirties and has made the trip to the U.S.A. to visit as many Orthodox Churches as possible to complete his building fund. The school is already in construction, as the late Patriarch Timotheos donated $1500 to the fund, in 1955. So far, here he has raised enough money to send $1000 back to Taybeh to keep the construction going.

From this typical story, it c be seen that without help fr other lands, these Communi would indeed remain backwa for years to come. However, spirit of democracy and allo people to express themselve must gradually pervade all p of life in a greater and grea gree; for this reason, perha Patriarchate should extend substantial showing of nativ ticipation in the areas which proper and traditional to all the National Orthodox Churc thruout the world. Possible ger, as intimated by the Syn the Russian influence taking the is, of course, a very re ever-present shadow.

All of these varied influence tensions will undoubtedly c a lengthy and continued post ment of the election and inst tion of a new Patriarch.

***Financial gifts may be s Int'l. Money Order to = Rev. Zacharias Nasr, St. George odox Church, Taybeh, Rama Amman, Jordan.

NOTICE TO READERS -

American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy is published as a Monthly News Review. Readers are invited to send in such local or other news as they may wish. Wherever space permits, these will be used.

The publishers are commencing the AREO QUARTERLY. It will be published in a Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall series. The first issue will be released in the Winter of 1956. The subject matter will deal with articles on history, tradition, state of the Church, doctrine, dogma and many other phases of religion. Subscription prices to this Quarterly will be $2.00 per year (50¢ additional for subscriptions outside U.S.A.)

NOTE: A combined subscription price for both the American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy (a monthly) and the AREO Quarterly is available at $4.25 per year ($1.50 additional for subscriptions outside U.S.A.)

Address the publication office:

American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy
215 West 69th Street, N.Y. 23, N.Y.

American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy is published monthly by the Eastern Orthodox Catholic Church in America at New York, N.Y. Application for second class mail privileges is pending at New York, N.Y. Member of the Religious News Service.

AREO is dedicated to the advancement of the Faith of the Fathers, interpreted in accordance with the needs of a progressing American Life. Vol. II No. IV April, 1956

Publication Committee: Rev. Gregory Adair, Chairman; George Nakulak, Secretary; Sarah Florio, Treasurer.

Subscription is $3.00 per year ($1.00 additional for subscriptions outside U.S.A.), payable to American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy 215 West 69th Street, New York 23, N.Y.

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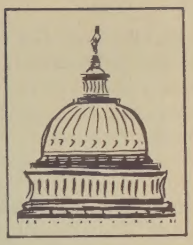
CHURCH AND STATE



IN GOD WE TRUST was unanimously approved as the official motto of the United States by the House Judiciary subcommittee in Washington D.C. When passed by the House it will become final and will thereafter appear on all printed currency, as well as on coins.

IGRATION AND REFUGEE activities in Washington have led to the creation of a pub- dvisory group, composed of leaders from religious-labor-agricultural-industrial organ- ons, to advise government officials on problems of coordination in connection with the gee Relief Program. In connection with this, an interesting ruling was passed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, that conscientious objectors, who are not mem- of organized churches, will be allowed to eliminate the pledge to bear arms in the oath tizenship.

* * * * *

EXEMPTION FOR CHURCHES and educational institutions, in relation to motor vehi-, when used for church functions or parochial school transportation, is provided for in use and Senate bill, known as the Dirksen-Mason bill. In addition, an amendment to this provides exemption on communications and transportation charges and on retail and man- turer purchases.

The passage of this bill will be of great benefit to both churches and educational systems ever cars or buses are used for their purposes. ED.

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IAL SECURITY FOR CLERGYMEN is fully covered in a Guide for Ministers, Mem- of Religious Orders and Christian Science Practitioners, which has just been issued by nternal Revenue Service. Clergymen, who desire Social Security in their old age, must applications Form #2031 by April of 1957 and pay a yearly 'self-employment' tax regul- thereafter, until his retirement. An incidental note in keeping with this, tells of the rement on July 1st, 1956 of the Rev. R.D. Cranmer (Universalist Church) - he becomes first clergymen in the U.S. to qualify for Social Security benefits.

The Guide for Ministers may be obtained thru your local Internal Revenue Office. ED.

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ERNMENT FLOOD INSURANCE FOR CHURCHES will be possible, at low rates, if a sponsored by Senator H.H. Lehman is enacted by the Federal Government. During the nt floods on both the East and West Coasts, churches and similar institutions suffered ions of dollars worth of uninsured damage. The bill provides up to $100,000 coverage on ncorporated non-profit properties. The policies will be available thru private insurance panies but will be reinsured by the Federal Government.

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UCED AIR RATES FOR CLERGY will be possible if Congress passes the Carlyle - kersham bill. American railroads have traditionally given clergy reduced 1st Class rates, the Airlines will, of course, decide exactly how much reduction, if any, they will grant, if gress gives the permission.

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LIMITED DONATIONS TO RELIGIOUS, educational and charitable organizations by in- duals whose income taxes plus charitable giving has equaled 90% or more of their income eight of the last ten years. The Congressional bill provides for this becoming retroactive 939 - in this way, certain wealthy people who qualify may apply for refunds on taxes, which urn must immediately be turned over to some charity they choose.

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STATE RECOGNITION TO EASTERN ORTHODOXY as a major Faith has been accorded by the Rhode Island State Legislature in official action. A similar measure has been passed by the House of the Massachusetts and sent to their Senate for action. Not so favorable, however, has been the fortune of such a measure in the N.Y. State Legislature, where it died in committee.

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NORTH CAROLINA SAYS 'NO BINGO', even though the proceeds may be used for charitable, educational or religious purposes, according to a recent ruling by Attorney General Rodman of Raleigh, N.C.

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VANDALISM EXPENSIVE FOR PARENTS, up to a maximum of $300, when committed by their children. Rev. Charles Schmitz of the Christian Conference on Adult and Youth Problems of the State of Arizona expressed 'great satisfaction' over the action of the State Senat in enacting this legislation.

- Exodus 20:5 working in reverse - ED.

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IN THE COURTS

ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN CHURCH case vs. Russian Orthodox Church In America (Leonty) has been postponed from April 6th to May 15th, 1956.

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FAITH-HEALER SUED FOR $225,000 by Mr. and Mrs. George W. Clark of Hialeah, Fla. for damage done to their 3 yr. old boy, after Faith-Healer and Evangelist Jack Coe advised removal of braces from the legs of the boy, who is a polio victim. The Miami (Florida) newspaper The Herald disclosed that the pudgy evangelist collected upwards of $2500 a night from the 5,000 to 10,000 people attending his tent meetings. Mr. Coe said jealousy caused the difficulties he is now in - he intimated that churches were jealous because his revival services drew such large crowds.

AREO reported in the March issue that Mr. Coe heads three 'non-profit' corporations, which have a net value of some $500,000. - ED.

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CONFUCIUS NEEDED FOR CONFUSION in the Melish case in Brooklyn, N.Y., where the split congregation continues its legal warfare with thrust and parry coming from all sides. The April 2nd Vestry election (Protestant Episcopal Church) brought on the latest flare-up with the two factions contending vigorously before the Altar as to who were 'qualified voters in the Annual Meeting. The disagreement ended with one side walking out with the old Vestry majority and the remainder electing a new Vestry. The actual legal Court case is still pending.

- The friction is over Rev. Melish, who is reported to have supported alleged pro-commu activities. ED.

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WEALTHY ATHEIST DEMANDS APPELATE COURT ACTION ON ROMAN BIAS - Mr Frank C. Hughes, 73 yr. old atheist who is seeking to remove chaplains from the governmer payroll, has appealed an adverse ruling rendered against him by Judge E.A.Tamm in Washington D.C., on the basis that the Judge 'did not and could not render a fair and impartial hearing towards him' because he is bound by Roman Catholic canon law. Mr. Hughes quoted Pope Pius XII = 'When a state law conflicts with the Church's teaching, a Catholic jurist need not enforce it'. Mr. Hughes feels the Judge followed this leading, in his case.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

Foreign

NEAR EAST TENSIONS in Cyprus continue unabated - to the historical minded person, however, the meaning is deeper than politics, economics, culture or other social reasons. It is the age-old search of Man for greater expression, which is a part of his evolutionary process towards God and restoration of his estate with God.

nalism, when understood in this light, gains its purpose in uniting people in a common which goal in turn is abandoned later for the greater goal of the now popular doctrine ne World'.

le with spiritual vision can understand this thought and see the coming growth of Man es ahead. Thus is tolerance born for the struggles of minorities to gain free expression.

ference to Cyprus, Patriarch Vikentije of the Serbian Orthodox Church stated that the sh action constituted 'a blow against the conscience of civilized humanity' coming as it a time when 'the whole world is fighting for basic human and national rights, for world , solidarity and fraternity'.

.V.A. Visser 't Hooft , secretary of the World Council of Churches in Geneva,Switzerland, hat the action may endanger efforts of his organization to bring Western and Eastern ches together.

oishop of Canterbury, Dr. G.F. Fisher, said the action has caused 'great perplexity and ess in Christian nations.'

oishop Michael, head of the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America, termed the n an 'uncivilized, un-Christian, and undemocratic abduction'.

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IAN CONCEPT OF THE MISSION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS INADEQUATE

rding to the judgement and views expressed by the nine man delegation which recently vishe Soviet, from U.S. In a prepared statement, the delegation said: 'It is clear that the ches generally are confined within themselves. They regard their function as that of saving and preparing them for Heaven. They show little other concern for the social or intellecife of their people. It was the prevailing assumption that science involves reason, religion eelings. Educational, economic and political life is the concern of the state. Worship, from to death, is the task of the church.'

the talks, extending over ten days, it was apparent that the Russian religious leaders so limited a view of the role of the churches that they and the American clergymen not talking about the same thing when they discussed freedom of religion.

in facts were elicited as to statistics, however, which are of interest. Some 6,000 mis, with a membership of 500,000, are maintained by the Baptist group in the USSR. The ogical seminaries are crowded, with some 1100 currently in training for the priesthood e Russian Orthodox Church; one seminary in Leningrad alone having 500 students, about priests taking correspondence courses in theology as well, to complete their training. Americans were informed that no actual count of membership has been made, but that are approximately 50,000,000 believers in the USSR, with 20,000 parishes and 35,000 ned priests. The total Soviet population is about 220,000,000.

American delegation, headed by Rev. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, president of the National cil of the Churches of Christ in the USA.,expressed their feelings that the visit had been worth-while and that such relations between churches was essential to peace and growth derstanding.

GREEK ORTHODOX PATRIARCH CHRISTOPHER II of Alexandria, Egypt is critically ill and is confined to the Greek Hospital, where he has been since February 10th, 1956. Member of the clergy, led by Metropolitan Parthenios of Pelusium, Senior member of the Holy Synod celebrated Divine Liturgy and Holy Unction by his bedside. The Patriarch partook of the Holy Communion with great fervor; since that date of February 20th, the Patriarch is much better and his fever has ceased. However, it will take a long time for his recovery, as he is 80 years old and has been in poor health ever since his trip acroos Equatorial and Eastern Africa in 1952. On that trip, he went as far as Dar El Salam and Zanzibar to carry out his pastoral duties.

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GRAND CROSS OF S.S. PETER AND PAUL AWARDED TO EGYPTIAN PREMIER, by Patriarch Alexander III of Antioch. The award was brought to Premier Gamal Abdul Nasser by two Antiochene Bishops, Ignatius of Epiphania and Elias of Lebanon. A reception was held for the presentation, at which Ambassador Kisselev of the USSR, Ambassador Melas of Greece and Mr. Michael Lootfallah, who is president of the Syrian Orthodox Community in Cairo, were present. Mr. Lootfallah declared that the 'Egyptian Orthodox will get rid of the influence of certain imperialistic foreign powers and that sooner of later the Patriarch of Alexandria will become Arab.' These hints, tactless as they were, made a bad impression among ecclesiastic circles, as it was suggested thereby that the Orthodox Church does not tolerate racial differences.

● Nothing could be further from the truth. Orthodoxy is composed of many races, colors, and national origins; including clergy of Arab-Negroid-Caucasian-and Oriental backgrounds and origins. - ED.

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BISHOP OF MELITA, JAMES COUCOUZES, VISITS ALEXANDRIAN PATRIARCHATE as a liaison of the Oecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople and of the World Council of Churches at Geneva. He came to approach the Alexandrian Church for a better understanding and collaboration with the World Council. Along with Metropolitan Photios of Paphos, who was also visiting Alexandria, Bishop Coucouzes visited the ailing Patriarch Christopher II and thereafter left for Jerusalem. The Metropolitan Photios had been visiting the Cypriot Fraternities in Egypt, but after the deportation of Archbishop Makarios, as first in seniority he became functioning head of the Church in Cyprus and therefore left Egypt immediately.

● During the illness of the Patriarch Christopher II, the three Metropolitans, Parthenios of Pelusium, Constantine of Leontopoli and Evangelos of Hermopoli are remaining in residence in Alexandria, in case of a crisis. - ED.

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BISHOP ANBA THOMAS OF THE COPTIC CHURCH WAS KILLED IN A TRAIN WRECK near the winter resort of Luxor, 350 miles south of Cairo, Egypt. The late Bishop was one of three members of a Patriarchal Council administering the affairs of the Coptic Church. The Council had been formed last September after the Egyptian government relieved Patriarch Anba Youssab II of his duties as head of the Church. This government action came after 12 bishops of the Holy Synod had voted to depose the patriarch. The vote was endorsed by the Coptic Community Council, laymen's organization that had been feuding with the patriarch for years in an effort to secure reform of the Church administration.

● This was reported in the Nov. 1955 and Jan. 1956 AREO issues. The Coptic Church, founded at Alexandria in 451 AD, is the largest Christian body in Egypt with some 2,500,000 members.

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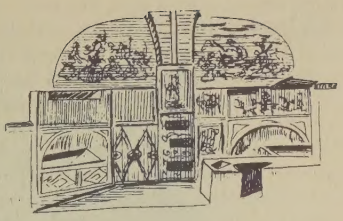
MYSTERIOUS HOLES IN THE GROUND NEAR THE VIA LATINA outside of Rome led to archaeological examination of the cause of the phenomena. Vatican archaeologists discovered a catacomb, never mentioned in any ancient text, which contained one of the largest and finest collections of Christian murals ever found. The murals, all remarkable for their beauty, were located in a small chamber measuring 158 feet by 89 feet. The frescoes represent subjects from both Old and New Testaments, including depictions of Adam and Eve, the Flood, the sacrifice of Isaac, the passage of the Israelites thru the Red Sea, Samson throttling the lion, and Absalom hanging from an oak tree. From the New Testament are pictures of Christ with the Disciples, the Annunciation, the Sermon on the Mount, Christ and the Samaritan woman, Christ seated between St. Peter and Paul and the resurrection of Lazarus. In addition, the catacombs contain a number of murals of pagan nature; such as, Cleopatra and the Asp, the life of Hercules, and

from the life of ancient Rome. It was explained
e theme of some of the pagan subjects was very
re and need considerable study.
n illustration of a typical catacomb vault is given
o show the reader how murals were common over
on the niches in the walls, in which burials were
The Winter issue of the AREO Quarterly, avail-
t a $1.00 for a sample copy, gives considerable
and study of the practices used in developing the
mbs and how deceptive the art found there is. -ED



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ICAN-ARMENIAN CHURCH RELATIONSHIP is expected to be discussed when the
icos Vazken I of Etchmiadzin, Soviet Armenia, calls of the Archbishop of Canterbury,
F. Fisher, shortly. Vazken spent more than a month in Egypt and Lebanon. In Cairo
sided at an ecclesiastical congress of the Armenian Church, summoned by him. After
e day meeting, the congress closed, with no apparent results. One of the main difficul-
ad been the conflict between the two Catholicates of Etchmiadzin and of Cilicia. From
cs, Vazken wishes to reduce the Cilician Catholicate to the status of a diocese. It was
t by some that Vazken had been prompted by the Soviet to this move, for political,
than Christian motives.
zken also attempted to journey to Jerusalem, but Jordan officials refused him permis-
even as a pilgrim. Jordan has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, under whose
ort Vazken is travelling.

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GIOUS FESTIVAL PLANNED IN GREECE by Metropolitan Theocletos of Patras.The
will be known as the 'Week of Liturgy' and will include exhibitions of Christian art and
ture, with lectures on religious subjects by University of Athens theologians. The lec-
will be given in the city's ancient open-air theatre that dates back to Greece's 'golden
' The exhibitions will be staged in local halls. The scene of the mid-May festival will be
s, capital of Achea, which is on the northern coast of the Peloponnesus about 100 miles
f Athens.
minisCent of Mars Hill - ED.

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SH CHURCH DELEGATION TO VISIT ROMANIA this spring at the invitation of the
f the Romanian Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Justinian. Bishop Fuglsang-Damgaard,
te of the Church of Denmark (Lutheran) will head the delegation.

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ROMANIAN ARCHBISHOP INSTALLED at Bucharest ceremony by Justinian, head of
manian Church. The new Archbishop, Dr. Justin Moisescu, is a professor at Bucharest
ogical Institute and succeeds the late Metropolitan Nicholae Balan, who died last August.
oisescu was chosen for the post by the Church's electoral college at a meeting Feb.26th
s election was confirmed immediately by the Holy Synod.

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BISHOP SPYRIDON DIES in Athens at the age of 81. He had been in poor health for a
ime. It is felt that the Cyprus tension hastened his passing - he was a leader of the
ment to unite Cyprus with Greece. He was also a leader in the reconstruction of war-
ged churches in Greece after the War - and in 1953 he marked the occasion of the rehab-
on of over 1000 churches by presenting to King Paul and Queen Frederika a silver minia-
f a Byzantine Church. He was the 100th Bishop of Athens and the 12th Archbishop of all
ce.

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ROPOLITAN DOROTHEOS ELECTED NEW ARCHBISHOP OF GREECE in a ceremony
Athens Cathedral. 56 of the 66 bishops of the Greek Church were present, and he received
tes. Immediately after the election, the doors of the Cathedral were opened and the result

was announced by Mr. Peter Levantis, the government minister of cults, to hundreds of the believers gathered in the square outside. Bells then pealed and the crowd poured into the Cathedral for the traditional post-election ceremony called 'The Great Message'. During this ceremony, the new archbishop read the customary declaration in which he pledged to uphold the Holy Canons and traditions of the Orthodox Church. He then signed the official volume in which are recorded all the previous holders of office. The new Archbishop is an eminent preacher and an outstanding authority on Canon Law - as a writer, he has authored more than 40 volumes, most of them on Canon Law. He was born on the Island of Hydra in 1888, the son of a poor fisherman. He was ordained after obtaining degrees in philosophy and law from the University of Athens and completing his studies in theology at the Theological School in Leipzig, Germany.

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ROMANIAN PRIESTS IN WEST EUROPE INVITED TO RETURN HOME by a Committee for Repatriation, recently formed in Communist Romania. The Committee promised the exiled clergy that they would be given back their former posts, without restrictions, trials or punishments. An estimated 500 of these clergy are living in Germany, France, England and other the West European countries.

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RECENT TRAVELER TELLS OF CONDITIONS AT MT. ATHOS in a talk to the Orthodox Christian Fellowship of Columbia University in New York City. Ivan Czap of Philadelphia, Pa. who is a lay official of the Russian Church in America, told of the difficulties facing monks of Slavic background in gaining admittance to Mt. Athos, Greece. Mr. Czap pointed out that the 1926 Greek constitution granted Greek citizenship to all monks then living on Mt. Athos and placed the area under the protection of the Greek government. He said: 'As a result of earlier jurisdictional disputes with the Soviet Union over the Treaty of Lausanne in 1923, and as a safeguard against possible Communist entanglements, the authorities passed a rule prohibiting the entry of all new monks of Slavic background. In order to avoid excessive discrimination against those from Communist-controlled countries, the proportion of Greek applicants admitted was greatly reduced. Partly due to this rule, which was in effect until last year, the monastic population of Mt. Athos has declined to about 3,000 at present. At the turn of the century it was 15,000. The current reopening of admissions is accompanied by careful scrutiny of applicants for possible Communist pressure or affiliation and no applicants from the Soviet Union are accepted.' Pursuant to this new policy, Mr. Czap showed how, in recent months, three young monks of Slavic background have been admitted to Orthodox monasteries on Mt. Athos. (Last June, officials of the Serbian Orthodox Church announced at Belgrade that the Greek government had approved visas for four young monks to reinforce the 20 aged ones at Hilendar.

● The following news item indicates the need for such precautions. - ED.

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FORMER EMIGRE PRIEST CHARGED WITH SPYING FOR KREMLIN. Archimandrite Mstislav Volontsevich is the individual referred to - In 1953, the Archimandrite returned to East Berlin, after having lived in 'exile' among the 'exile' Russian Community of Western Europe for some time. He took with him, on his flight, a list of nearly 100 anti-soviet Russians, who had residence in Netherlands and Germany. He had centered his work as a priest in Hamburg and Luebeck. The list of the 100 names has been used with good effect in staging 'kidnappings' of some of these anti-soviet emigres and carrying them back into East Germany.

It is extremely interesting to note that the emigre group with which this Archimandrite was active with, is known as the Karlovtsy Synod and more lately as the 'Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia' with headquarters in New York City. The head of this group, one Metropolitan Anastassy, recently stated in a petition filed with Senator Kilgore's sub-committee on immigration, that leniency should be granted to immigrants who were 'forced' to tell falsehoods about their names or national origins, by circumstances. As his words are quoted: 'None of us claim they have done the right thing'. It is also interesting to note that in a N.Y.State Supreme Court decision handed down adversely to this same group, in the spring of 1955, that one of their Archbishops 'had been convicted of crime and been twice married'.

● It is not a new occurence when political powers use religious figures to forward their espionage, as well as fifth-column activities, in other lands. Congress should most certainly

e and re-examine the cases of all 'emigre' clergy with close and microscopic scrutiny rtain whether their motives are laudable and in keeping with the ideologies of the Free - ED.

a footnote, it must be added that the Archimandrite was rewarded by Moscow by being rated as Bishop of Velikie Luki by Patriarch Alexei in a ceremony at Troitse-Sergiyeva lery.)

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CHURCHES ATTRACT LARGE CROWDS, illustrating the tenacity of religion in this birthplace of the old holy Russia. Kiev is one of Russia's largest cities and was the y thru which Christianity was introduced to Russia by Prince Vladimir in the late ninth r. While most of the city's renowned churches are either in disuse or disrepair, the Vladimirski Cathedral and the chapels in the historic Kiev 'Cave Monastery', overlooking eper River, are well-filled for Services. Below the surface of the monastery grounds abyrinth of caves, in which the monks used to dwell in large numbers; these are fre- l by large numbers of the curious and faithful who wander among the glass-topped sep- s, candle in hand, to view the remnants of by-gone eras. Above ground, one of the former s has been converted to a museum, one of the dominant pictures therein, being that of

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PUBLISHERS ANNOUNCE FACTS ON SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF SCRIPTURES. ocket Testament League, the Japan Bible Society, the British and Foreign Bible Society,and erican Bible Society announced that upwards of 4,000,000 Scriptures, New Testaments, and re portions had been printed in some 620 different languages or dialects for foreign dis- n. Evangelists, missionaries, sound trucks and Society representatives were among the hose engaged in this immense task of distribution.

nments on the African field were voiced by two of the leading agencies: 'Never before have een so many people in Africa who could read, and never before has een such a hunger for the Word of God in printed form. This is a dous new missionary challenge, and it is one which must be met now,' r. A.A.Kunz of the Pocket Testament League.

y can never hope to keep up with the demand. Once they learn to read, icans have an insatiable demand for reading matter,' said Rev. F.J. Bedford of the British reign Bible Society.

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GOVERNMENT BARS MODERN BIBLE TRANSLATIONS FROM LS. The Ministry of Cults and Education warned school heads thru- ece, that use of any version of the New Testament, other than that original classical Greek is strictly forbidden. The explanation was ny questions had been submitted to it, 'as well as because of the cir- n in Greece of Testaments issued by foreign Bible Societies that many discords with the original Greek text, the only one authorized by the Ecumenical rch of Istanbul and the Church of Greece.' Meanwhile, work on a new version in modern s going forward under the direction of a committee of professors at the University of theological school.

ection of the 1948 Greek Constitution, which became effective Jan. 1, 1952, specifically translation of the Scriptures into 'any Greek dialect without the approval of both the ox Church of Greece and the Ecumenical Patriarchate.' - ED.

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YMAN SAYS THERE IS A 'SUSPICION' BIBLICAL SCHOLARS ARE CONCEALING MATION ON DEAD SEA SCROLLS. Dr. Charles F. Potter, speaking at the Community of N.Y.C. stated such information would 'upset Christian theology and perhaps even doubt on the deity of Jesus.' He made clear that he felt that every attempt by preachers holars to allay those fears was so clumsily done that the suspicion was boosted to new t. Dr. Potter said further that 'one of the greatest Christian scholars of this generation ted to him that there were four Essene sects one hundred years before Christ, of which ied out - the one which persisted is now popularly known as Christianity.'

NATIONAL WELFARE COUNCIL OF GREEK-AMERICAN laymen was held in Chicago, late in February, 1956 to consider the welfare needs of the general American Community, as well as the needs of the Eastern Orthodox (Greek) Church members. About 500 leading Greek-Americans from every section of the country, were on hand.

The Pan-Arcadian Federation of America, the second largest secular Greek-American group in the U.S.A., sponsored the gathering. The Federation claims a membership of some 200,000 Americans.

Welfare proposals are virtually assured of adoption by the Federation's annual conventi in N.Y. next August. One proposal calls for setting-up a Pan-Arcadian Welfare Agency - t would activate local Pan-Arcadian support of existing private social service agencies and s charitable fund-raising groups as the Community Chest, Child Welfare Foundation and Nati Welfare Assembly.

Other proposals would give greatly expanded support to Greek Orthodox Church Welfare and Education projects. The Greek Orthodox Welfare Foundation, headed by Archbishop Mi and administered in Chicago by Bishop Ezekiel, was singled out for special commendation i current campaign to provide modern care for the aged and constructive rehabilitative aid f the homeless of all ages.

Supreme President Samuel C. Maragos, Chicago attorney, and Vice-president Alexande Sioris, N.Y. attorney, expressed the need of 'more intelligently organized means' for provi 'private help to the needy'. The agenda for the conference was prepared with the help of t Chicago Metropolitan Welfare Council and the meeting was addressed by the Council's Exec Director, Dr. Robert H. McCrae, who urged a 'creative approach to the welfare problem' a departure from 'old country poor-farm ideas and outmoded social service methods'.

Among other conference delegates was Peter N.Chumbris of Washington D.C., who is associate general counsel for Senator Kefauver's sub-committee on juvenile delinquency. F merly the Supreme President of Pan-Arcadia, Mr. Chumbris acts now as the group's Natio Religious Director and as Eastern Director of the Christian Orthodox Laymens Council of A ica.

(The Federation's 1956 excursion to Greece was also announced to be led by Rev.P.K. Mi Mr. John Kappos and Mr. James Pallam. The tour will travel aboard the Queen Frederica, l June 1st.)

* * * * *

THE AMERICAN EASTERN ORTHODOX UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION was Incorporated i the State of Illinois on March 8, 1954 as a non-profit organization 'to promote and assist in the establishment of an Eastern Orthodox Christian University in the United State of America.'

The principal agent for the Foundation is Supreme President of the Pan Arcadian Federation, Samuel Maragos of Chicago, Illinois. For the New York area, Mr. James Demos of 37-33 75th Street, Jackson Heights, N.Y. is acting as liaison for the Foundation.

The principal task of the Foundation is lay the ground work necessary for effective plan and conducting of a campaign to raise the funds necessary for such a venture; at which time the entire Orthodox Community in America will be presented with the facts.

* * * * *

REPORT ON NATIONAL JUNIOR YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING OF GREEK ARCHDIOCESE of February 7th-8th, 1956 at the Greek Archdiocese. A series of decisions were made with the approval of Archbishop Michael =

i. The National Youth Office will prepare the first part of the Divine Liturgy for mixed chorus, based on Byzantine tradition of John Sakellarides. The noted composer Mr. T Xirellis of Athens will do the arrangements. A total of 10,000 copies to be printed and the price to be established by the Archbishop.

ii. Bible reading, especially during the week of the Commemoration of St. Paul to be carried out with memorizing of selected verses as a task for the Youth of local chapters

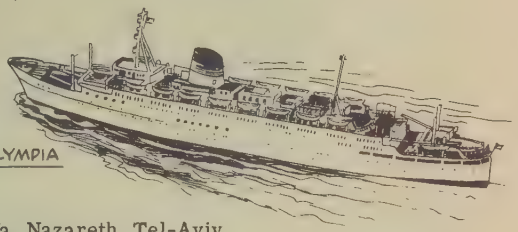
iii. All Altar Boys shall be issued certificates of merit on National Youth Sunday; certificates to carry boy's name and to be signed by Archbishop Michael.

A special Youth Committee shall be formed at the Thirteenth Clergy-Laity Congress to be held in Washington D.C. in September, 1956 to coordinate and handle all Youth problems, including Juvenile Delinquency, for future action.

To develop better public relations activities for the Junior Youth Movement, including a special section in the 'Orthodox Observer', and also an appropriate brochure, setting forth the purpose, aims, and activities of the National Youth Organization.

* * * * *

G.O.Y.A. PILGRIMAGE TO the Holy Land is scheduled to sail on Tuesday, June 5th, 1956, aboard the beautiful T.S.S. Olympia. The 10 day crossing, interesting lectures will be held about the places to be visited.



The T.S.S. OLYMPIA

The first stop to be Amman, capital of Jordan, thence on to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Haifa, Nazareth, Tel-Aviv, Damascus. From the Holy Land, the tour will fly to Constantinople, where an audience with His Beatitude Athenagoras has been arranged. Thence, the trip will continue to Salonika, the Greek port, and to Athens.

It is reported to be the first time that any young people's religious group of any denomination in America has sponsored such a Pilgrimage. The entire cost of the trip will be $1500, and the group will return to N.Y. on July 25th. Anyone desiring further information, may correspond with Mr. Ernest A. Villas, Chairman, 2706 Russell Avenue, North, Minneapolis 11, Minnesota.

* * * * *

BISHOP MICHAEL REQUESTS ORTHODOX TO DROP USE OF WORD 'CATHOLIC' in referring to the Church 'either orally or in writing'. He made the request to the Greek communities in an episcopal letter, declaring that the use of the word 'Catholic' has given cause for confusing Orthodox Churches with Eastern Rite (Uniate) Roman Catholic Churches. The latter who are under the Pope, often are referred to as Greek Catholics. The Archbishop further stated that 'the term **EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH** must be used when we refer to any or collectively of the various Orthodox segments such as: Greek, Russian, Syrian, Antiochian, Rumanian, Ukrainian, Carpatho-Russian, Bulgarian and Albanian.'

In reference to this question, an interesting comment had been previously received by this publication (AREO) from a reader, who is very active in GOYA. Quoting from the letter: 'I would like to express a personal disapproving note about something which was particularly apparent in the last issue of AREO. And that is the use of the word 'Catholic' to denote the Roman...., when only the word 'Orthodox' is used to denote us. I welcome the opportunity to be asked what I mean when I say I am a member of the Church of Christ; and I regret the willingness of some to render a name which has been proper to us since early times; I fear it constitutes an acknowledgement that we really do not think we are entitled to it; for if we thought we were, I think we would fight for it. ....I far prefer the title.....Catholic Orthodox Church of Christ.'- ED.

* * * * *

FUTURE OF THE FOREIGN-LANGUAGE CHURCH IN AMERICA was stressed in an article in the GOYAN Quarterly, Vol.II #I of Diocese V, District II, by J.O. Lorant. In the article he stresses 'the Greek School is one of the basic cornerstones of our beloved Orthodox Church.....The Communities....set up the Greek School, then forget it completely and show no further interest in it. Consequently, we come to the realization that the language that resisted for a hundred years of Turkish slavery and oppression is about to become extinct in the 'Home of the Free and the Brave'.....The dying of the language threatens the very structure of the Greek Orthodox Church in America.....We need: 'X' - a Community Youth Center with all that implies... a Summer Youth Camp.....The fate of the Community lies in the willingness of the Community to cope with this difficulty of bringing a transformation of the old into the new, there is great resistance from the older generation, often resulting in both neglect as well as open warfare to the detriment of those who have progressive ideas. The recent resignation of the brothers John and Constantine Scopas from the Brookline faculty, because, it is reported, of their inability, due to resistance, to put a forward and progressive educational system installed in that Institute. - ED.

ROMAN CATHOLICS REVAMPING WORSHIP SERVICES, which represent, according to Rev. Fr. Charles J. McManus, director of the Catholic Information Bureau in N.Y., 'the greatest step taken in centuries to restore observances of the holy days of the week to thei original status'. Some of the modifications include:

i. Public participation in phases of services formerly carried out mainly by the offician
ii. Evening services on Holy Thursday, commemorating the Lord's Supper, instead of in morning as previously observed.
iii. Shifting of Good Friday services from morning till afternoon to more nearly coincid with the time of Christ's death.
iv. An 'Easter vigil' and midnite mass Saturday night before Easter - replacing a servi formerly held Saturday morning.
v. Use of the vernacular - English instead of Latin - in portions of the Saturday service the first time English has been made a fixed part of the regular Liturgy.
vi. On Palm Sunday, a procession of clergy and laity, all carrying palms and singing hy
vii. For Holy Thursday, the new ritual recommends the revival of the washing of the fee of twelve men, after the example of Christ.
viii. The rite of the Pre-sanctified Liturgy shall be shifted from morning till afternoon.

The Liturgical Conference, with headquarters in Boston, describes the Easter Eve service in these words: 'The service opens with the church in darkness and a new fire is lighted, preferably outside the church, with all the people gathered around. A large candle, symbol of Christ, is lighted from the new fire.'

In a slightly parallel vein, the Eastern Rites and Liturgies held its 18th annual Conference at Fordham University, N.Y.C. at which Bishop J.H. Griffiths of N.Y. declared that in the past, Roman schisms were usually contrived to 'satisfy lusts for political power.' Monsei neur Tuohy added: 'We must pray that we may be extremely kind to other's beliefs and cus toms and understand that ours are not necessarily the best.'

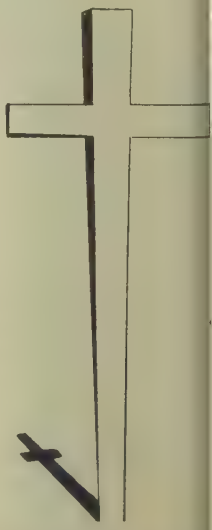
In distant Fribourg, Switzerland, Roman Catholic Bishop Francois Charriere urged pastor in his diocese to encourage Bible reading among their parishioners.

• All of which adds up to the fact that such advances in Roman Catholic Action means a gradual return to the Mother of Christianity and to the original, Orthodox Teachings of the Apostles and Church Fathers. This should give heart to Orthodox and Protestant alike to know that such a change is going on, for thru it, gradually, all may be once more drawn together in one great universal Church of Christ. - ED.

* * * * *

THE 1,113th SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

Proclaimed at Constantinople in the Year of our Lord 843 as The First Sunday of Lent. According to the Eastern Orthodox Church Calendar



The Council of Orthodox Clergy and the Inter-Orthodox Youth Committee of Greater Cleveland sponsored its Tenth Joint Annual Commemoration of the 1,113 Sunday of Orthodoxy on Sunday night, March 25th, 1956. Some 1500 people were in attendance, with a combined Choir of 225 singers from the various participating churches. The featured speaker was Princess Ileana of Rumania. She spoke on : 'The Fullness of Our Orthodox Faith'. Nine different Orthodox Churches participated in the festival, headed by the Rev. Fr.George Simon, pastor of St. George's Syrian Orthodox Church. A dinner in honor to the Princess, was held at S.S.Peter and Paul Russian Church, before the celebration, at which the Mayor presented her with the keys to the City. The da was memorable also, in that it marked a triple celebration of Greek Independence Day, the Feast of Annunciation and the Day of Orthodoxy.

combined Services, commemorating this triple celebration, were held thruout the several of the most important being those held in Cincinnati, Ohio, where four differ- hodox Churches worshipped together for the first time in the local history of the city. urgy was chanted in four languages, with the sermon in English; and that held in Gary with some three congregations merging themselves onto a single service. arrisburg, Penna. the four local Orthodox Churches participated in a common Vespers , with the V.Rev. Alexander Schmemann as lecturer and a 100 voice Choir rendering the ine refrains.
Assumption Greek Church of Somerville, Mass. presented an original play based on of the GreekAmerican soldier-hero, Pvt. George Dilboy, who was a Congressional of Honor winner. (This is the same Church in which the recently installed stained glass s were dedicated - among the windows, being one of the Ascension, in remembrance of at Greek-American baseball-hero, Red Sox 1st baseman, Harry Agganis, deceased.)

* * * * *

NICOLAI DIES at the age of 76. At the time of his death, the Bishop was functioning or of the St. Tickon's Monastery seminary at S.Canaan, Penna. He was a Serbian ox bishop, who had been a wartime leader of the Yugoslav resistance, along with the triarch Gavrilo. He held degrees from several Universities and was well known for tings on spiritual subjects. He will be intered at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Monastery rtyville, Illinois.

* * * * *

ISHOP TIRAYRE, ARMENIAN PRELATE DIES at the age of 88. He was formerly mate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America. His full name was e Der Hovhanesian. The present Primate, Archbishop Mampre Calfayan conducted the s.

* * * * *

ON AND TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH OF THE ORIGINAL GREEK NEW TEST- T ORDERED BY GREEK ARCHDIOCESE. Scholars have been engaged for some time reek Church in producing an accurate, usable version of the original Greek New Test- n English for use by the American Churches and people. When the work is completed, e submitted for approval and confirmation to the Ecumenical Patriarchate. It will then nly authorized English text for the Greek Orthodox Christians in America.

* * * * *

ESTAMENT TO BE TRANSLATED INTO MODERN ENGLISH FOR ORTHODOX H USE by a special committee of Biblical scholars, with the approval of Metropolitan of the Syrian Orthodox Church. The new texts will be used in services in Syrian Ortho- rches in the U.S.A. In addition, they are expected to find wide acceptance and use in anches of the Eastern Orthodox family of churches. The project will take about a year, ng to Dr. Gerald E. Knoff, exec. sec'y. of the National Council of Churches' Division of an Education. The Committee of Scholars was organized under the auspices of the . The translation will actually be an adaptation from the ancient Greek lectionaries, n the phraseology used in the Revised Standard Version of the King James Testament. s Nelson and Sons, publishers of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, will publish lish Versions of the ancient texts, when completed.

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#840	S.Panteleimon (A)	#917	Gethsemane (A,B,D)
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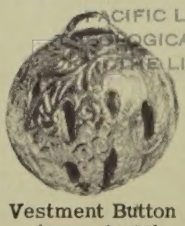

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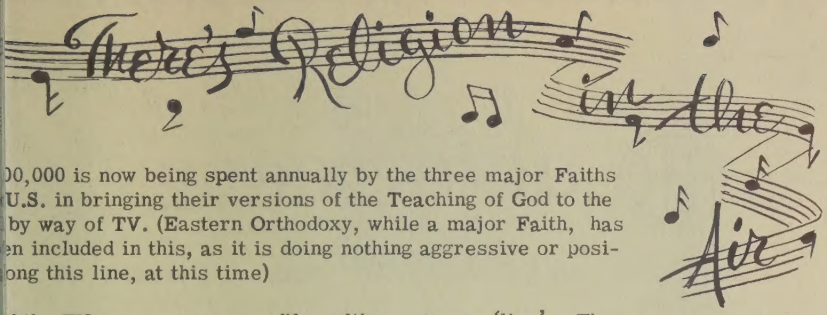

00,000 is now being spent annually by the three major Faiths U.S. in bringing their versions of the Teaching of God to the by way of TV. (Eastern Orthodoxy, while a major Faith, has en included in this, as it is doing nothing aggressive or positong this line, at this time)

f the TV programs are on film, altho some are 'live'. The utstanding of the 'live' programs are those of Dean Pike of iscopal Church and the Reverend Norman Vincent Peale. The Methodist Church has ntered the TV field, by commencing a program series to be called 'The Way', all of are filmed and will have Hollywood stars in many feature roles - these films will be over some 200 TV Stations.

and TV are God-given means of communication, which the Churches should use ively -

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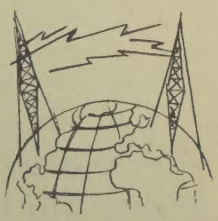
To win converts
To restore the careless
To instruct in Christian living
To help 'shut-ins' to meet personal problems
To strengthen the Christian community
To create better understanding of the Church
To help different religious groups understand each other
To cooperate with broadcasting companies in an effort to present the highest cultural and religious heritage

l Churches should cooperate with their local bodies to make more effective programs =

ynods should form broadcasting committees, or appoint broadcasting coordinators, so at local talent may be utilized more fully on both national and local RADIO and TV programs, whether 'live' or recorded.

ecorded programs should be left with 'open-end' for use by local communities, which se the nationally produced programs for their own local purposes.

know-how' should be provided by the national organization to the local community to aid d inspire them in developing their own local program.



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